

REMARKS

Applicant recognizes with appreciation that Examiner indicates that Claims 5 – 7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

In this Amendment, Applicant has cancelled Claim 5 without prejudice or disclaimer, amended Claims 1 – 4 and 6 – 7, and added new Claims 8 – 9. Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable features of Claim 5. Claims 2 – 4 and 6 – 7 have been amended to proper dependent form and correct certain informalities. Claims 8 and 9 have been added to specify certain embodiments of the present invention. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been introduced by the amended claims. All claims are now present for examination and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the preceding amendments and the following comments.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103:

Claims 1 – 4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Lundell (US 5,947,215), in view of Pearson (US 4,014,395). In addition, Claims 1 – 4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Lundell, in view of EP document ‘534 to Jennings et al. (EP 0581534).

Applicant traverses the rejection and respectfully submits that the embodiments of present-claimed invention are not obvious over Lundell in view of Pearson, or over Lundell in view of EP document ‘534. More specifically Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable features of Claim 5. Therefore, Claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2 – 4 and 6 – 9 are also allowable by their dependency on Claim 1.

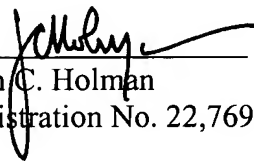
Therefore, the rejection the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 has been overcome. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 is respectfully requested.

Having overcome all outstanding grounds of rejection, the application is now in condition for allowance, and prompt action toward that end is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

JACOBSON HOLMAN PLLC

Date: March 15, 2005
(202) 638-6666
400 Seventh Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
Atty. Dkt. No.: P69454US0

By 
John C. Holman
Registration No. 22,769